

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES EMPHASIS (AA DEGREE A0411)

Humanities and Social Sciences Division

An emphasis in Environmental Studies is an interdisciplinary course of study that provides students with an integrated and critical understanding of the natural environment and human interactions with it. The coursework is designed to examine the interplay between natural and social systems and the ideological foundations of humanity's attitudes and behaviors in relation to its ever-changing environment. This program is designed to prepare students to research, analyze, and propose solutions to the myriad environmental challenges facing the world today through a well-rounded curriculum combining classroom, laboratory, and field study instruction. Students who are interested in an Environmental Science major are advised to follow the AA in Liberal Arts with an emphasis in natural sciences and to work with a counselor to select major courses appropriate to their intended transfer institution.

This degree requires the completion of General Education coursework plus the following:

Required Courses

Course Prefix	Course Name	Units
Choose a combination of any 3 courses		9-11
BIOL 6	Humans and the Environment	
BIOL 6L	Humans and the Environment Laboratory	
GEOL 9	Environmental Geology	
BUSC 1A	Principles of Economics - Macroeconomics	
or BUSC 1AH	Principles of Economics - Macroeconomics - Honors	
POLI 10	Environmental Politics	
Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning		
Choose a minimum of three units from the following:		3-5
BIOL 1	General Biology	
BIOL 3	Ecology and Field Biology	
BIOL 4	Biology for Majors	
or BIOL 4H	Biology for Majors - Honors	
BIOL 20	Marine Biology	
BIOL 21	Marine Biology Laboratory	
BIOL 25	Conservation Biology	
BTNY 3	Plant Structures, Functions, and Diversity	
CHEM 10	Chemistry for Allied Health Majors	
CHEM 40	Introduction to General Chemistry	
CHEM 50	General Chemistry I	
or CHEM 50H	General Chemistry I - Honors	
GEOG 1	Physical Geography	
or GEOG 1H	Physical Geography - Honors	
GEOG 1L	Physical Geography Laboratory	
or GEOG 1LH	Physical Geography Laboratory - Honors	
GEOG 10	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	
GEOL 1	Physical Geology	
GEOL 8	Earth Science	
or GEOL 8H	Earth Science - Honors	
GEOL 8L	Earth Science Laboratory	
MATH 110	Elementary Statistics	

	or MATH 110H	Elementary Statistics - Honors	
MATH 140		Calculus for Business	
MATH 160		Precalculus Mathematics	
MATH 180		Calculus and Analytic Geometry	
METO 3		Weather and the Atmospheric Environment	
METO 3L		Weather and Atmospheric Environment Laboratory	
BIOL 99A		Special Projects in Biology	
OCEA 10		Introduction to Oceanography	
or OCEA 10H		Introduction to Oceanography - Honors	
OCEA 10L		Introduction to Oceanography Laboratory	
PHYS 1		Physics	
PHYS 2AG		General Physics	
PHYS 4A		Engineering Physics	
PHSC 3		Energy Science	
PHSC 9		Physical Science	
PSYC 10		Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences	
Social Science			
Choose two of the following options:			6
ANTH 5		Cultural Anthropology	
BUSC 1B		Principles of Economics - Microeconomics	
or BUSC 1BH		Principles of Economics - Microeconomics - Honors	
GEOG 2		Human Geography	
or GEOG 2H		Human Geography - Honors	
GEOG 5		World Regional Geography	
GEOG 30		Geography of California	
or GEOG 30H		Geography of California - Honors	
PHIL 12		Introduction to Ethics	
or PHIL 12H		Introduction to Ethics - Honors	
POLI 1		Introduction to American Government and Politics	
or POLI 1H		Introduction to American Government and Politics - Honors	
SOC 2		Contemporary Social Problems	
or SOC 2H		Contemporary Social Problems - Honors	
Recommended Electives			
GEOL 24		Geologic Field Studies: Central California	
GEOL 25		Geologic Field Studies: Southern California	
GEOL 29		Special Topics in Field Geology	
HIST 1		History of the United States	
HIST 4		World History: Early Modern to the Present	
HIST 39		California History	
Total Units			18-22

Guided Pathways of Study Suggested Course Sequence (<https://www.mtsac.edu/guided-pathways/pathway-results.html?pthwyvar=A0411&desc=Environmental+Studies+Emphasis%2C+AA+A0411>)

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, a student will be able to:

- Demonstrate critical thinking skills in relation to environmental issues
- Demonstrate an ability to integrate the many disciplines and fields that intersect with environmental concerns
- Demonstrate an awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of ecological processes and their relationship they have with human communities

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- Demonstrate an ability to integrate environmental issues within the concept of sustainability

Review Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) (<http://www.mtsac.edu/instruction/outcomes/sloinfo.html>) for this program.